

A detailed illustration of a zombie's face, showing pale skin, sunken eyes with orange irises, and bloody wounds. A hand in a green surgical glove holds a scalpel, positioned near the zombie's eye. The background is dark and moody, with a bright light source creating a strong highlight on the left side of the face.

GEORGE A. ROMERO

EMPIRE OF THE DEAD

ACT THREE

ILLUSTRATED BY
ANDREA MUTTI

#1

MARVEL

**PARENTAL
ADVISORY!
NOT FOR KIDS!**

A MESSAGE FOR THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT MAYOR CHANDRAKE

AS YOU ALL KNOW, IT'S BEEN FIVE YEARS SINCE THE UNDEAD MENACE FIRST BEGAN TERRORIZING THE WORLD. UNDER MAYOR CHANDRAKE'S LEADERSHIP, NEW YORK CITY HAS BECOME A FORTRESS OF ISOLATION AGAINST THE UNDEAD PLAGUE.

CHANDRAKE'S GUIDANCE HAS KEPT US SAFE AND ALLOWED US, NEW YORK'S SECRET CABAL OF VAMPIRES, TO RETAIN OUR POWER AND CONTROL. HE'S EVEN INVESTING IN FINDING A WAY TO "TAME" THE UNDEAD THROUGH HIS SPONSORSHIP OF SCIENTIST **PENNY JONES** AND HER PRIZE ZOMBIE SUBJECT, **XAVIER**. UNFORTUNATELY, THE PROJECT HIT A MAJOR SETBACK WHEN XAVIER WAS SHOT WHILE INTERFERING WITH ONE OF OUR MEN COLLECTING A STREET URCHIN NAMED **JO** FOR OUR...RELOCATION PROGRAM.

DESPITE ALL HE'S DONE FOR US, THERE ARE THOSE WHO WISH TO SEE HIS REIGN END. **CHILLY DOBBS**, ONCE ONE OF US, IS NOW RUNNING AN OPPOSITION CAMPAIGN. HE'S BEING BANKROLLED BY **RUNYON**, WHO IS CONSORTING WITH KNOWN REBELS AND INSTIGATORS WHO WISH TO TAKE OUR BELOVED CITY FOR THEMSELVES.

ADDITIONALLY, AN INVESTIGATOR NAMED **PEREZ**, ALONG WITH ZOMBIE WRANGLER **PAUL BARNUM**, HAS BEEN GETTING CLOSE TO DISCOVERING SOME OF OUR MORE...UNDER THE TABLE OPERATIONS.

KEEP NEW YORK SAFE. KEEP NEW YORK **OURS**. SPREAD THE WORD AND VOTE CHANDRAKE!



THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT MAYOR CHANDRAKE MEMBERS:

GEORGE ROMERO WRITER **ANDREA MUTTI** ARTIST
RAIN BEREDO COLOR ARTIST **VC'S CORY PETIT** LETTERER
FRANCESCA MATTINA COVER ARTIST **PHIL NOTO** VARIANT COVER
IRENE Y. LEE PRODUCTION **PETER GRUNWALD** PRODUCER
JAKE THOMAS EDITOR **AXEL ALONSO** EDITOR IN CHIEF
JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER **DAN BUCKLEY** PUBLISHER



GEORGE ROMERO'S EMPIRE OF THE DEAD: ACT THREE No. 1. Published Monthly by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 135 West 50th Street, New York, NY 10020. © 2015 Romero-Grunwald Productions. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Romero-Grunwald Productions. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

COLUMBIA HOSPITAL I.C.U.



BULLET ENTERED HER RIGHT CHEEK, EXITED THE BACK OF HER NECK. BRAIN WASN'T AFFECTED. I THINK SHE CAN SURVIVE THIS.

SURVIVE? BUT, DR. JONES, SHE'S ALREADY DEAD! A WALKING CORPSE!

A VERY SPECIAL WALKING CORPSE.

PENNY, I'M GETTIN' A SPIKE...

B.P. UP TO... NOWHERE NEAR NORMAL, BUT... WHAT'S NORMAL FOR A DEAD PERSON?

THERE ARE NO REAL SIGNS OF CONSCIOUSNESS.

GGNNOOOH.

BOY, SHE'S REALLY HANGING ONTO THAT BAG.

IT WAS GIVEN TO HER BY SOMEONE SHE CARED FOR VERY MUCH...



IF THAT'S
NOT A SIGN OF
CONSCIOUSNESS
I DON'T KNOW
WHAT IS!



STILL, I
DON'T KNOW IF
WE SHOULD BE
TAKING MEASURES
TO KEEP SOMEBODY
ALIVE WHO'S
ALREADY DEAD!



I TOLD
YOU...THIS
DEAD PERSON
IS VERY
SPECIAL!

THAT
MAY BE,
DR. JONES,
BUT--



NO
ARGUMENTS! I
HAVE THE MAYOR'S
AUTHORITY TO DO
WHATEVER I FEEL
IS NECESSARY
HERE.



JUST OFF THE NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE.

WE'RE
STUCK HERE,
CHIEF.

ALL THAT
RAIN, HEAVY
VEHICLES UP TO
THEIR AXLES.
GONNA TAKE TILL
TOMORROW TO
DIG 'EM OUT.



TARFYTOWN.

OKAY,
DANIEL, OVER
AND OUT.

TOMORROW!
I'M SUPPOSED TA SIT
HERE FOR TWENTY-FOUR
HOURS WITH A
HUNDRED-FOOT BALLOON
MARKIN' ME AS A
TARGET!

NOBODY'S
GONNA TARGET US.
LIKE Y'ALL SAID,
EVERBODY FIGGERS US
FER SOME FOOTBALL
PROMO. I MEAN,
LOOKIE THERE

NEVER
LOOKED AT
US TWICE, AND
THEM'S THE
POLICE!



GUESS WE'RE
TOO DAMN BIG
T'OBVIOUS FER
ANYBODY TA
NOTICE US.



UPSTATE NEW YORK.

WHAT'S
THAT UP
AHEAD?

I
DON'T SEE
NOTHIN'.

LOOKS
LIKE...STADIUM
LIGHTS.

THERE'S NO
STADIUMS UP NORTH
HERE. SHUT OFF YOUR
HEADLAMPS, MURPHY.

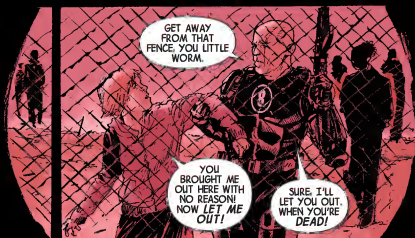
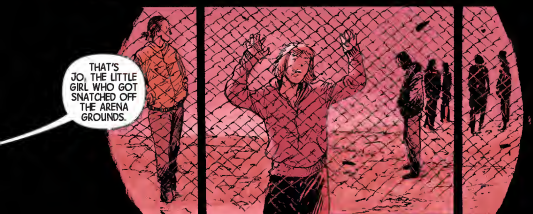
LET'S GO
TAKE A LOOK
OVER THAT
HILL.

GEEZ-
OH-MAN...WHAT
IS THAT?

IT'S ONE
O' THEM
VEGETABLE FARMS
THE CITY RUNS.

**GOVERNMENT
FARMLAND
NO TRESPASSING
BY ORDER OF
THE NYPD**



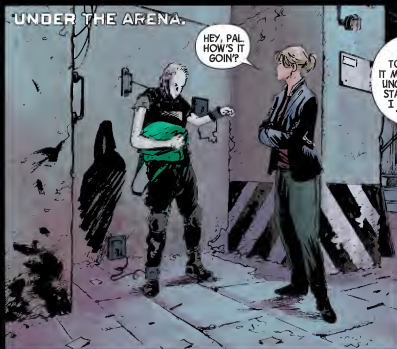




UNDER THE ARENA.

HEY, PAL
HOW'S IT
GOIN'?

DON'T
YOU WANT
TO SIT DOWN?
IT MUST BE PRETTY
UNCOMFORTABLE
STANDING THERE
I MEAN...SINCE
YESTERDAY.



WHERE IS JO?
MY FRIEND.
YHODAA JO.

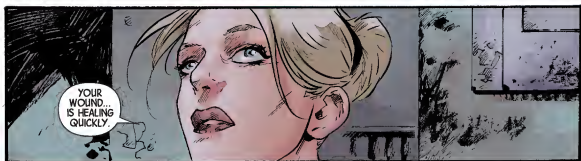


AT LEAST
LET ME TAKE
THAT BAG...



GROOOHHH!





ROBT SE WANTS
JOINT WHERE
IS JOINT POLICE

CHANDRAKE'S APARTMENT.

BING

AH! PERHAPS
LILITH HAS
COME HOME.



DARLING...
WHERE HAVE
YOU BEEN?

OUT.

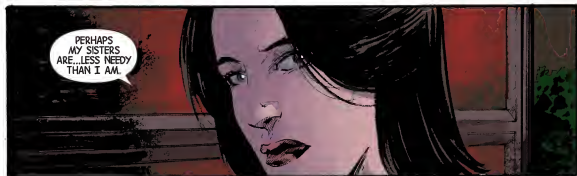
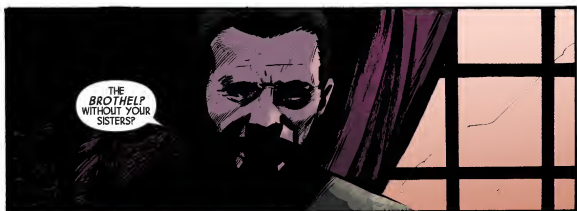


OBVIOUSLY,
BUT...WHERE?



BUTTERCUP'S.







JUST
HAVING SOME
GOOD, OLD-
FASHIONED
SEX.

OH? WITH
WHOM?



SOME
JOHN. I, ER...
I NEVER CAUGHT
HIS NAME.

IF ALL THIS
IS MEANT TO
ANNOY ME, IT HAS
FAILED TO DO SO. IT
HAS ONLY MADE
ME...ANGRY!



UH-OH.



I DON'T MIND
THE OCCASIONAL
DALLIANCE, BUT IF I
EVER FIND YOU DOING
SOMETHING MORE...
NEFARIOUS...BELIEVE
ME, DEAREST, THERE
WILL BE HELL
TO PAY!

MIDTOWN WEST.

ZEB
STILL AIN'T
ANSWERIN'.

MIGHT BE
TUCKED IN
WHERE THERE
AIN'T NO CELL
PHONE
SERVICE.

MEBBE,
WE OUGHTA
GET BACK
INSIDE.

OF COURSE
I'M HOPING TO
GET YOUR VOTES,
BUT MORE IMPORTANT...
I WANT YOU TO
START THINKING
DIFFERENTLY!

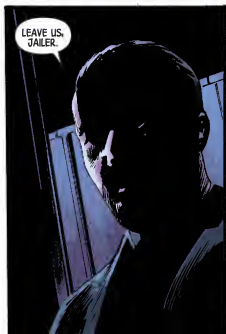
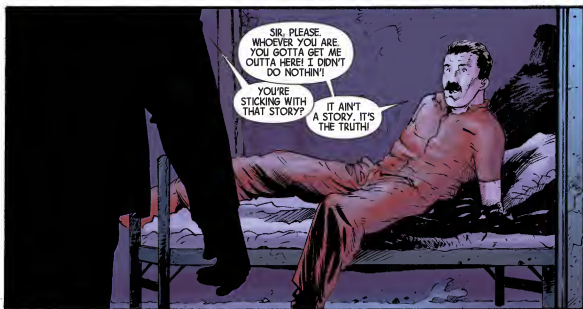
"THINK DIFFERENT."
HE SAYS. WHEN HE
SHOULD BE SAYIN' "IF YOU
DO NOT THINK DIFFERENT,
I WILL FIND YOU AND
SQUEEZE YOUR HEAD UNTIL
YOU DO THINK
DIFFERENT."

THE WAY YOU
JUST SAID THAT,
BOSS, IS THE WAY
I WOULD'VE SAID IT.

S'MATTER,
SUNSHINE?
YER BOY LETTIN'
YOU DOWN?

IN THE
END, EVERYBODY
LETS YOU DOWN.
DO YOU NOT FIND
THAT TO BE THE
FACTUAL CASE?







THE, ER...
"TRUTH," SIR, IS
THAT YOU WERE
BROADCASTING A
MESSAGE WHICH
COULD ONLY BE
CHARACTERIZED
AS TREASON.



TREASON...



...AGAINST
ME.



S-SIR, I-I
MEAN...MISTER
MAYOR...I DIDN'T
KNOW IT WAS YOU,
SIR. I DIDN'T
RECOGNIZE—

APPARENTLY
YOU DIDN'T
RECOGNIZE A
NUMBER OF
THINGS...



...SUCH AS
THE FACT THAT
TREASON IS
PUNISHABLE...BY
DEATH.









**TO BE
CONTINUED!**



GEORGE A. ROMERO

EMPIRE OF THE DEAD

ACT THREE

ILLUSTRATED BY
ANDREA MUTTI

MARVEL 002

**PARENTAL
ADVISORY!
NOT FOR KIDS!**

A MESSAGE FOR THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT MAYOR CHANDRAKE

AS YOU ALL KNOW, IT'S BEEN FIVE YEARS SINCE THE UNDEAD MENACE FIRST BEGAN TERRORIZING THE WORLD. UNDER MAYOR CHANDRAKE'S LEADERSHIP, NEW YORK CITY HAS BECOME A FORTRESS OF ISOLATION AGAINST THE UNDEAD PLAGUE.

CHANDRAKE'S GUIDANCE HAS KEPT US SAFE AND ALLOWED US, NEW YORK'S SECRET CABAL OF VAMPIRES, TO RETAIN OUR POWER AND CONTROL. HE'S EVEN INVESTING IN FINDING A WAY TO "TAME" THE UNDEAD THROUGH HIS SPONSORSHIP OF SCIENTIST **PENNY JONES** AND HER PRIZE ZOMBIE SUBJECT, **XAVIER**. UNFORTUNATELY, THE PROJECT HIT A SETBACK WHEN XAVIER WAS SHOT WHILE INTERFERING WITH OUR MEN PUTTING A STREET URCHIN NAMED JO ON A SCHOOL BUS TO OUR...RELOCATION PROGRAM. LUCKILY, XAVIER SEEMS TO BE RECOVERING QUICKLY--ALMOST TOO QUICKLY.

DESPITE ALL HE'S DONE FOR US, THERE ARE THOSE WHO WISH TO SEE HIS REIGN END. **CHILLY DOBBS**, ONCE ONE OF US, IS RUNNING AN OPPOSITION CAMPAIGN BANKROLLED BY **RUNYON**, A KNOWN COMPATRIOT OF REBELS AND OTHER UNSAVORY TYPES.

ADDITIONALLY, AN INVESTIGATOR NAMED **PEREZ** AND THE ZOMBIE WRANGLER **PAUL BARNUM** HAVE BEEN GETTING CLOSE TO DISCOVERING SOME OF OUR MORE...DISCREET DEALINGS, INCLUDING OUR RELOCATION CAMPS.

KEEP NEW YORK SAFE. KEEP NEW YORK **OURS**. SPREAD THE WORD AND VOTE CHANDRAKE!



THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT MAYOR CHANDRAKE MEMBERS:

GEORGE ROMERO WRITER **ANDREA MUTTI** ARTIST
RAIN BEREDO COLOR ARTIST **VC'S CORY PETIT** LETTERER

FRANCESCA MATTINA COVER ARTIST

IRENE Y. LEE PRODUCTION **PETER GRUNWALD** PRODUCER
JAKE THOMAS EDITOR **AXEL ALONSO** EDITOR IN CHIEF
JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER **DAN BUCKLEY** PUBLISHER



GEORGE ROMERO'S EMPIRE OF THE DEAD: ACT THREE No. 2. Published Monthly by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 135 West 50th Street, New York, NY 10020. © 2015 Romero-Grunwald Productions. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Romero-Grunwald Productions. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

GOVERNMENT FARM.
UPSTATE NEW YORK.



I FEEL
LIKE OLIVER
TWIST.

OLIVER
WHO?

HAVE YOU
FORGOTTEN
YOUR
DICKENS?

HAD A
STEPPAD
WHO KICKED
THE DICKENS
OUTTA ME.



I MEAN CHARLES
DICKENS, THE
AUTHOR OF A NOVEL
CALLED "OLIVER
TWIST,"
WHICH WAS NAMED AFTER
ITS PRINCIPAL CHARACTER
WHO, IN A QUEUE MUCH
LIKE THIS, RECEIVED A
PITIFUL PORTION OF
GRUEL AND FAMOUSLY
ASKED FOR MORE.

WHO WOULD
EVER WANT
"MORE" OF THIS
SLOP?

SLOP IT IS,
BUT IT FILLS OUR
BELLIES, DOESN'T
IT? WHAT'S
YOUR NAME?

JOSEPHINA.
THEY CALL
ME JO.



HOW DO YOU
DO? MY NAME IS MILES.
SAME AS THE YOUNG LAD
IN "TURN OF THE SCREW."
OH, BUT I SUPPOSE YOU
DON'T KNOW HENRY
JAMES, EITHER.

IS HE
ANOTHER
AUTHOR?

ONE
OF THE
BEST!



OKAY, WELL...HAVE YOU
EVER HEARD OF ROGER
LANCELYN GREEN?

ER...CAN'T
SAY THAT I
HAVE.

ONE OF THE
BEST! HE WROTE
"ROBIN HOOD." SEE?
I KNOW A THING OR
TWO ABOUT BOOKS.



MY DAD...MY
REAL DAD...USED
TO READ TO ME.
BEFORE HE...
DISAPPEARED.



HOW DID YOU COME TO THIS PLACE?

SNATCHED, KIDNAPPED, YOU?

NOTHING NEARLY AS EXCITING AS THAT. I WAS SOLD.



I WAS BORN IN LIVERPOOL. MUM AND DAD TOOK MONEY FOR ME. WE WERE POOR. I WAS ONE OF SEVEN, AND THE ELDEST. IT WAS A HANDSOME SUM THEY WERE PAID.



THERE WAS ALSO THE WHOLE BUSINESS OF "PATRIOTISM." MUM AND DAD TALKED A GREAT DEAL ABOUT THAT. YOU KNOW, "GO WORK ON A FARM," "GOOD FOR THE HUMAN RACE" ALL THAT RUBBISH.



ARE YOU SURE IT'S THE... **HUMAN RACE** THEY WERE TALKIN' ABOUT?

ARE THERE OTHER RACES?

I FIGURE AT LEAST THREE.

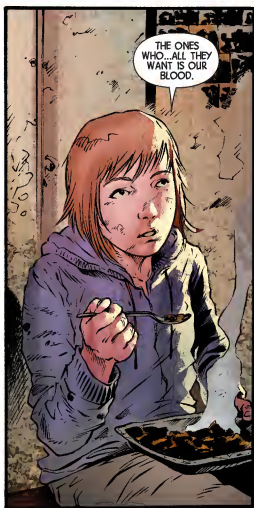


THERE'S THE
NORMALS. THEN
THERE'S THE ONES
WHO WANNA
EAT US.

THE
STINKERS.

YEAH, 'CEPT
THEY DON'T
ALL STINK.

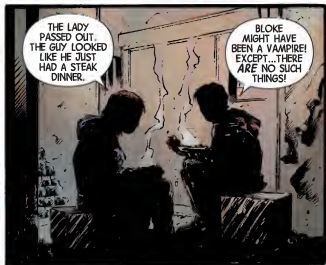
AND
THIRD?



THE ONES
WHO...ALL THEY
WANT IS OUR
BLOOD.

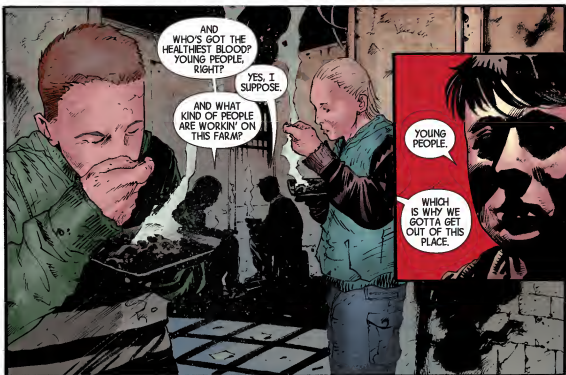
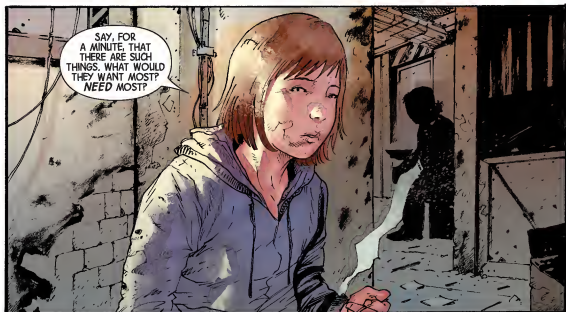


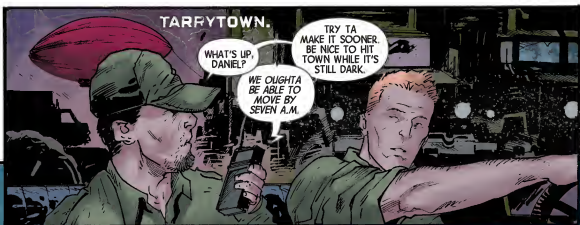
ON THE
STREETS, I SEEN
A GUY 'ONCE...SUCKIN'
LIKE A BABY' ON
SOME LADY'S
NECK.



THE LADY
PASSED OUT.
THE GUY LOOKED
LIKE HE JUST
HAD A STEAK
DINNER.

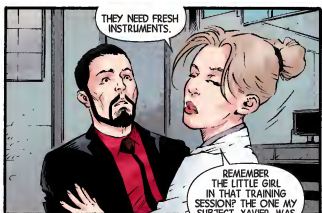
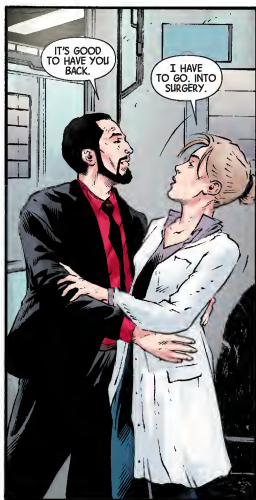
BLOKE
MIGHT HAVE
BEEN A VAMPIRE!
EXCEPT...THERE
ARE NO SUCH
THINGS!





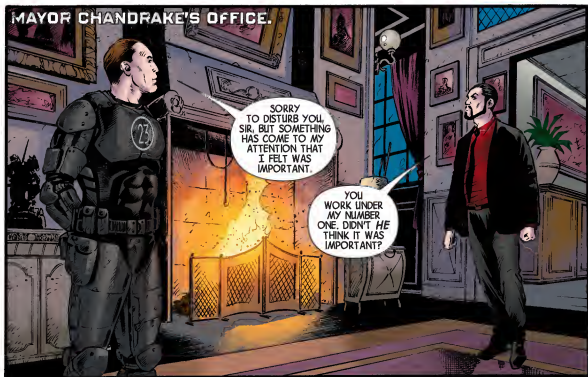
JUST OFF THE NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE.







MAYOR CHANDRAKE'S OFFICE.



SORRY TO DISTURB YOU, SIR, BUT SOMETHING HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION THAT I FELT WAS IMPORTANT.

YOU WORK UNDER MY NUMBER ONE. DIDN'T HE THINK IT WAS IMPORTANT?

I, ER...DIDN'T ASK HIM, SIR. I'M TAKING...INDEPENDENT ACTION HERE.



YESTERDAY MORNING, SIR. MURRAY AVENUE.

397 MURRAY, PAUL BARNUM'S ADDRESS.

THE FACT THAT YOU BROUGHT ME THIS PHOTOGRAPH IS, I TRUST...

STRICTLY BETWEEN US, SIR.

GOOD. A TIME MAY COME WHEN I WILL ASK YOU TO...DO ME ANOTHER SERVICE.

YOU CAN ALWAYS RELY ON ME, SIR.



LATER.

I HAVE
THIS FEELING
THAT HE'D LIKE
TO...ELIMINATE
ME.

THAT'D BE
TOO DANGEROUS!
YOU'RE A FIXTURE! IF
YOU WERE TO SUDDENLY
DISAPPEAR...PEOPLE
WOULD ASK
QUESTIONS.



DON'T
WORRY, IF HE
TRIES TO PULL
ANYTHING WE'LL
BLOW THE
WHISTLE.

YEAH, WE'RE
FINISHED WITH
CHANDRAKE, JUST
LIKE YOU
ARE.

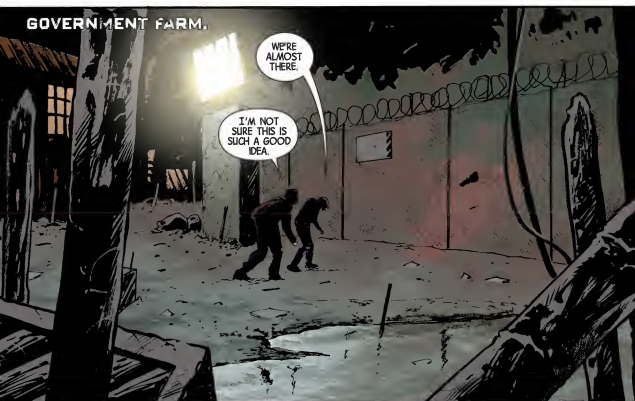


"FINISHED?"

I AM
THE ONLY
ONE WHO IS
ALLOWED TO BE
FINISHED
WITH
ANYBODY!

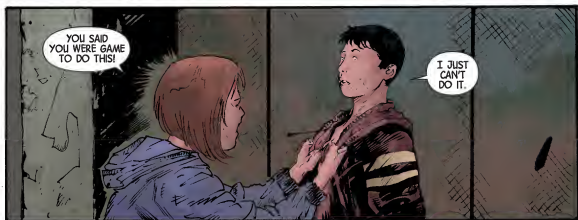


GOVERNMENT FARM.



WE'RE
ALMOST
THERE.

I'M NOT
SURE THIS IS
SUCH A GOOD
IDEA.



YOU SAID
YOU WERE GAME
TO DO THIS!

I JUST
CAN'T
DO IT.



WIMP! I'M
SCRAMMIN'
YOUR LOSS.



ALMOST
THERE.



ALMOST...



HEY!



WHATCH'YA
DOIN', CUTE
STUFF?

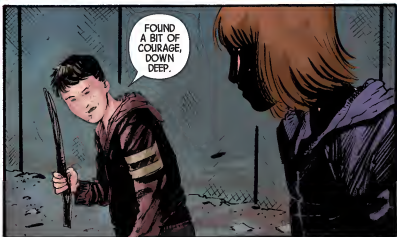
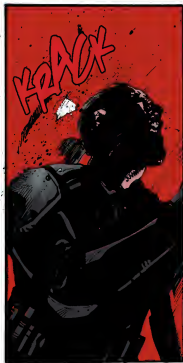
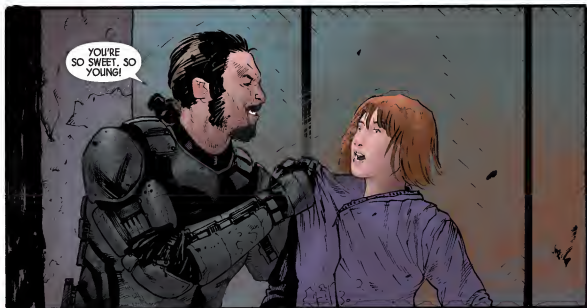
I'M TRYIN'
TA GET OUTTA
HERE, WHAT DO
YA THINK I'M
DOIN'?



WHY WOULD
YA WANNA GET
OUTTA HERE? BEFORE
WE GOT TO KNOW
EACH OTHER?



I DON'T
NEVER
WANNA GET
TA KNOW
YOU!







YOU!



THIS
CREEP KILLED
MY BEST
FRIEND!



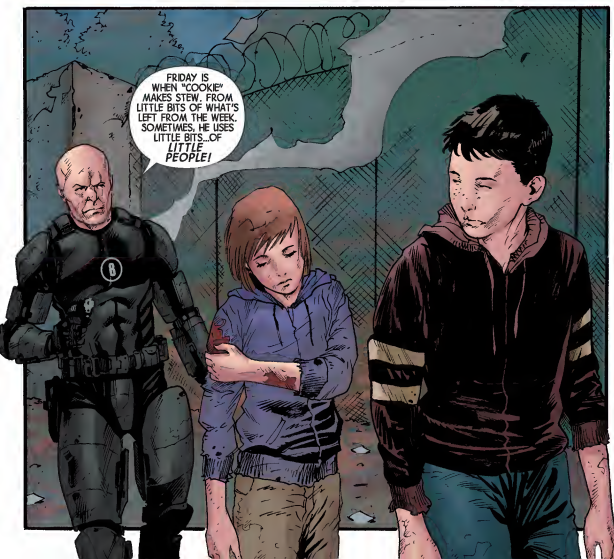
CRUNCH



YEEEOUCH!

HOW DO YOU
LIKE THAT, YOU
COCKROACH?





CHILLY DOBBS' SECRET
ELECTION HEADQUARTERS.

WHAT IS
THE STORY HERE?
EVERYBODY IS HAVING
A SNOOZE!

YOUR
CANDIDATE
DOZED
OFF.

I CANNOT
BELIEVE THAT
THIS CHADROOL HAS
FALLEN ASLEEP ON
THE JOB.

I SHOULD
NEVER, ON THIS GUY,
HAVE BLOWN SO MUCH
AS I DID. I AM GREATLY,
AS THE HEBREWS SAY,
"FATOOTZED." DO YOU
HAVE ANYTHING LEFT INSIDE
YOUR BOOT THAT MIGHT,
BY CHANCE, GIVE ME
SOME RELIEF?

I STAKED
MOUNTAINS OF
LETTUCE ON THIS GUY.
BUT IT IS NOT THE
LETTUCE THAT HAS ME
"FATOOTZED." IT IS THE
IDEA THAT I PICKED
THE WRONG HORSE!
HOWEVER, I AM
FORTUNATELY
LUCKY.

LUCKY?
HOW?

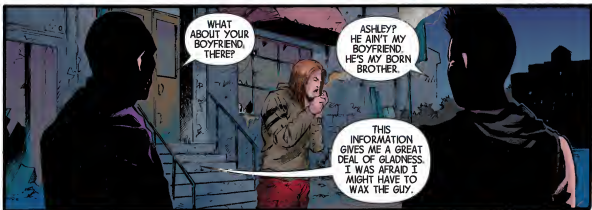
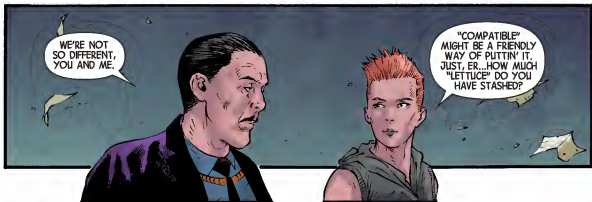
I HAVE MORE
MOUNTAINS OF
LETTUCE STASHED
AWAY.

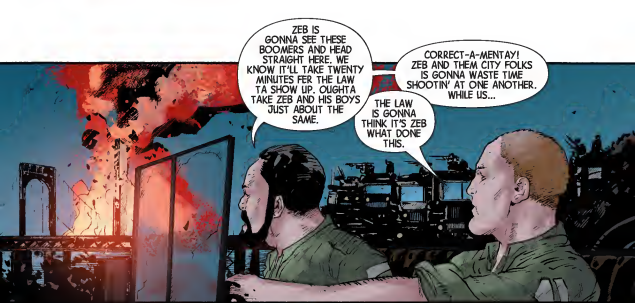
STASHED
AWAY?

YES. ARE YOU
INTERESTED?

BE LYIN'
IF I SAID I
WASN'T.

I HAVE
KNOWN ALL
ALONG THAT
YOU WERE ALL
ABOUT THE
LETTUCE.





ZEB IS GONNA SEE THESE BOOMERS AND HEAD STRAIGHT HERE. WE KNOW IT'LL TAKE TWENTY MINUTES FER THE LAW TA SHOW UP. OUGHTA TAKE ZEB AND HIS BOYS JUST ABOUT THE SAME.

THE LAW IS GONNA THINK IT'S ZEB WHAT DONE THIS.

CORRECT-A-MENTAY! ZEB AND THEM CITY FOLKS IS GONNA WASTE TIME SHOOTIN' AT ONE ANOTHER, WHILE US...



...US IS GONNA BE WAY OUT IN FRONT OF 'EM. DROPPIN' BOMBS AND MAKIN' 'EM CHASE US ALL THE WAY.



ALL THE WAY TO WHERE?

I KNEW YOU WAS STUPID, BUT...



...WHAT THE HELL WE BEEN TALKIN' ABOUT ALL THIS TIME?

FED'RAL RESERVE!

DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH MONEY IS IN THERE, BUT IT'LL CUT UP FIFTY WAYS BETTER'N A HUNNERT. TELL MOONRAKER TA HIT THE OTHER TOWER.

TO BE CONTINUED...



GEORGE A. ROMERO

EMPIRE OF THE DEAD

003 **MARVEL**

**PARENTAL
ADVISORY!
NOT FOR KIDS!**



ACT THREE

ILLUSTRATED BY
ANDREA MUTTI

A MESSAGE FOR THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT MAYOR CHANDRAKE

AS YOU ALL KNOW, IT'S BEEN FIVE YEARS SINCE THE UNDEAD MENACE FIRST BEGAN TERRORIZING THE WORLD. UNDER MAYOR **CHANDRAKE**'S LEADERSHIP, NEW YORK CITY HAS BECOME A FORTRESS OF ISOLATION AGAINST THE UNDEAD PLAGUE.

CHANDRAKE'S GUIDANCE HAS KEPT US SAFE AND ALLOWED US, NEW YORK'S SECRET CABAL OF VAMPIRES, TO RETAIN OUR POWER AND CONTROL. HE'S EVEN INVESTING IN FINDING A WAY TO "TAME" THE UNDEAD THROUGH HIS SPONSORSHIP OF SCIENTIST **PENNY JONES** AND HER PRIZE ZOMBIE SUBJECT, **XAVIER**. UNFORTUNATELY, THE PROJECT HIT A SETBACK WHEN XAVIER WAS SHOT WHILE INTERFERING WITH OUR MEN PUTTING A STREET URCHIN NAMED JO ON A SCHOOL BUS TO OUR...RELOCATION PROGRAM. LUCKILY, XAVIER RECOVERED QUICKLY.

DESPITE ALL HE'S DONE FOR US, THERE ARE THOSE WHO WISH TO SEE HIS REIGN END. **CHILLY DOBBS**, ONCE ONE OF US, IS RUNNING AN OPPOSITION CAMPAIGN BANKROLLED BY **RUNYON**, A KNOWN COMPATRIOT OF REBELS AND OTHER UNSAVORY TYPES. WE HAVE INTEL THAT ASSOCIATES OF RUNYON'S CO-CONSPIRATOR **DIXIE** HAVE BEEN BEHIND A SERIES OF BOMBINGS.

ADDITIONALLY, AN INVESTIGATOR NAMED **PEREZ** AND THE ZOMBIE WRANGLER **PAUL BARNUM** HAVE BEEN GETTING CLOSE TO DISCOVERING SOME OF OUR MORE...DISCREET DEALINGS, INCLUDING OUR RELOCATION CAMPS.

KEEP NEW YORK SAFE. KEEP NEW YORK **OURS**. SPREAD THE WORD AND VOTE CHANDRAKE!



THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT MAYOR CHANDRAKE MEMBERS:

GEORGE ROMERO WRITER **ANDREA MUTTI** PENCILER
ANDREA MUTTI W/ ROBERTO POGGI INKERS **RAIN BEREDO** COLOR ARTIST
VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERER **FRANCESCA MATTINA** COVER ARTIST
IRENE Y. LEE PRODUCTION **PETER GRUNWALD** PRODUCER
JAKE THOMAS EDITOR **AXEL ALONSO** EDITOR IN CHIEF
JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER **DAN BUCKLEY** PUBLISHER



GEORGE ROMERO'S EMPIRE OF THE DEAD: ACT THREE No. 3. Published Monthly by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 135 West 50th Street, New York, NY 10020. © 2015 Romero-Grunwald Productions. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Romero-Grunwald Productions. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

MIDTOWN WEST.

I THINK
I KNOW WHAT
MIGHT BE GOIN'
ON OUT
THERE.

FRIENDS
OF YOURS,
DIXIE?

NOT
ANYMORE.

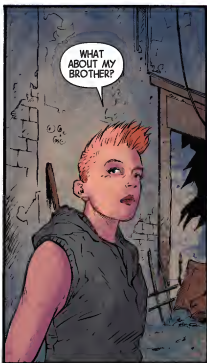


I AM THINKING
WE SHOULD SCRAM,
SO THAT WE DO NOT
HAPPEN TO LOOK UP
AND FIND A BOMB
DROPPING OVER
OUR HEADS.

WOULD
YOU PERHAPS
CONSIDER THE
IDEA OF
SCRAMMING...
WITH ME?



WHAT
ABOUT MY
BROTHER?



HE WILL BE
PART OF THE SCRAM.
AS WILL MY BODYGUARDS.
ME AND MY BODYGUARDS
HAVE ALWAYS COME
UP ACES.



I'M WILLIN'
TA PLACE A BET
ON THEM ACES.
RUNYON, LET'S
SKEDADDLE!



110TH AND HENRY HUDSON PARKWAY.

TELL THE
BOYS TA BLOW
SOMETHIN'
ELSE UP.



SHOOT
AT SOMETHIN'
BIG, FELLAS.



TELL 'EM TO
KEEP THEM CARDS
AND LETTERS COMIN'.
ALL THE WAY DOWNTOWN.
THE COPS WON'T KNOW
WHAT'S HAPPENING. WE'LL
HAVE EVERYBODY CHASIN'
US...BUT WE WON'T
BE THERE.



TARRYTOWN.

THAT'S
GOTTA BE
US.

CAN'T BE
US. WE ALL
IS HERE.

THE REST
OF US! DANIEL AND
HIS BOYS. I B'VE
THEY'S TRYIN' TA
BEAT ME TA
THE GOLD.



HOW
WE GONNA
STOP 'EM,
ZEB?

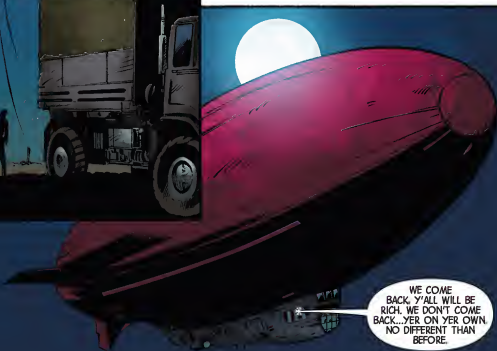
THIS HERE
FLYIN' MACHINE
AIN'T SO FAST AS A
JET. BUT IT'S ONE
HELLUVA LOT FASTER
THAN ROLLIN'
IRON.



CUT US
LOOSE AND
LET US FLY!



WE COME
BACK. Y'ALL WILL BE
RICH. WE DON'T COME
BACK...YER ON YER OWN.
NO DIFFERENT THAN
BEFORE.



DOWNTOWN.

SCHOOL BUSES,
AS REQUESTED, BARNUM.
WE GOIN' BACK UP TO
THAT FARM?

PROBLEM IS,
THAT PLACE IS SET
UP TO LOOK CLEAN.
LIKE CHANDRAKE'S
CATTLE FARMS.

HE BRINGS
REPORTERS THERE,
AND THEY WRITE
ARTICLES TELLING THE
PUBLIC THE CITY'S DOING
WHAT IT'S SUPPOSED TO
DO. PROVIDING FOOD.
MAKING LIFE
BETTER.

WE'RE
HEADIN' UP THERE,
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING
ELSE I WANT YOU TO
SEE FIRST.

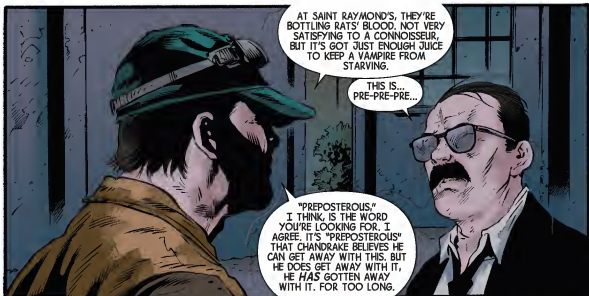
GO TO
TREMONT AVENUE.
BRONX. SAINT
RAYMOND'S HIGH
SCHOOL. AND TAKE A
LOOK INSIDE THE
GYMNASIUM.

YOU'RE NOT
GONNA BELIEVE THIS,
PEREZ. BUT THERE ARE
VAMPIRES IN THIS CITY.
MAYOR CHANDRAKE IS
ONE OF THEM.

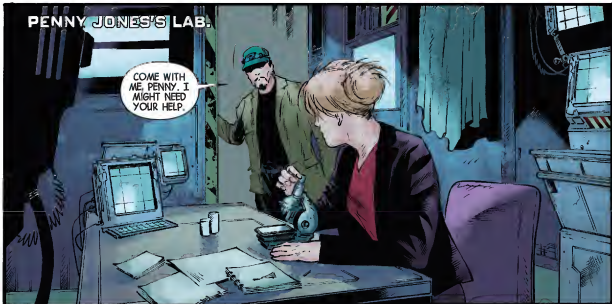
THE REAL
"CROPS" THAT
COME FROM THOSE
FARMS ARE THE
KIDS WORKIN' IN
THEM.

CHANDRAKE'S
SICK WAY OF
INSURING A FUTURE
FOR HIS BREED. HE'S
GROWING...**FRESH
BLOOD!**

YOU'RE
RIGHT ABOUT
ONE THING. I
CAN'T BELIEVE
IT.



PENNY JONES'S LAB.



UNDER THE ARENA.





THE BRONX.



POLICE!
EVERYBODY
FREEZE!



HANDS
IN THE
AIR!



DIOS
MIO...

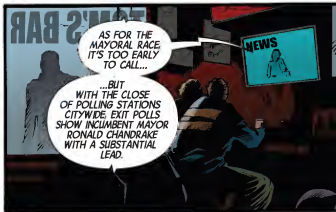


...BARNUM
KNEW ABOUT
THIS.





CHILLY DOBB'S SECRET ELECTION HEADQUARTERS.



THE LUCKY HORSESHOE.





WHAT'S
BEHIND THEM
DOORS?

HAVING BEEN
THE OWNER AND
MANAGER OF THIS
DUMP FOR A
NUMBER OF
YEARS...



...I HAVE
ACCUMULATED A
GREAT DEAL OF
LETTUCE. FROM STUPID
BETS THAT PEOPLE LAY
DOWN ON GAMES
OF CHANCE.



WHAT DOES
THAT "LETTUCE"
AMOUNT TO?



YOU
OUT THERE,
LOUIE?

I AM
HERE, BOSS.
DOORS
OPEN.

TELL TYRONE
TO START
SHOVELING.



OUTSIDE THE ARENA.

ALL RIGHT,
YOU STINKERS,
LISTEN TO OUI
SLIPSHOD AND
GET ON THE
BUS!



WHY? NMLU
PERNSE WHY
SFR THIS? MD



OKAY,
BARNUM,
WHAT ARE
WE DOING
HERE?



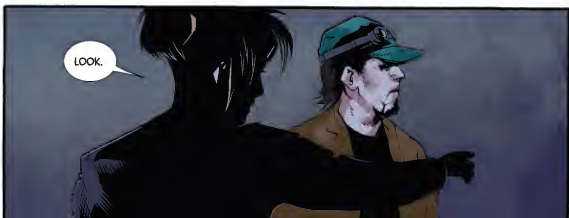
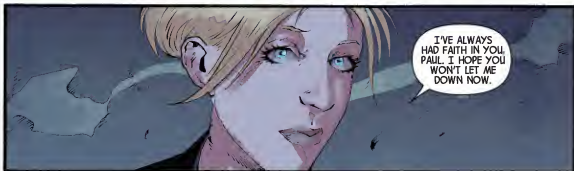
WE'RE
GOING TO
SAVE OUR
FRIENDS.





MYFRIENDS.THJ







THEY
SEEM
TO TRUST
YOU.

NOT ME.
YOU.

MAYBE A
BIT OF ME...
HAS RUBBED
OFF.



MAYOR CHANDRAKE'S APARTMENT.

EXCUSE
ME, SIR, BUT
DETECTIVE
PEREZ IS HERE
AGAIN.

HOW
ANNOYING.
WHAT IN THE
WORLD IS ALL
THAT BOOMING
OUTSIDE?

NO ONE
SEEMS TO KNOW,
SIR, BUT IT APPEARS
TO BE GETTING
CLOSER.

CALL
NUMBER ONE
AND FIND OUT.
NOW, AND SHOW
THE DETECTIVE
IN.



MAYOR
CHANDRAKE,
GOOD TO SEE
YOU AGAIN.

DETECTIVE.
WHAT CAN
I DO FOR
YOU?



YOU'VE BEEN KEEPING SECRETS,
MISTER MAYOR. SECRETS THAT
EVERYONE IN THIS CITY WOULD
LIKE TO KNOW. I'M AFRAID WE
NEED TO TAKE YOU IN
FOR QUESTIONING.

QUESTIONING?
ABOUT WHAT?

ABOUT
ACTIVITIES AT
SAINT RAYMOND'S
HIGH SCHOOL IN THE
BRONX. AND AT
CERTAIN GOVERNMENT
FACILITIES UP
NORTH.

AH, WELL...IF YOU
KNOW ABOUT THOSE...
ACTIVITIES, IT WOULD
SEEM THAT YOU KNOW...

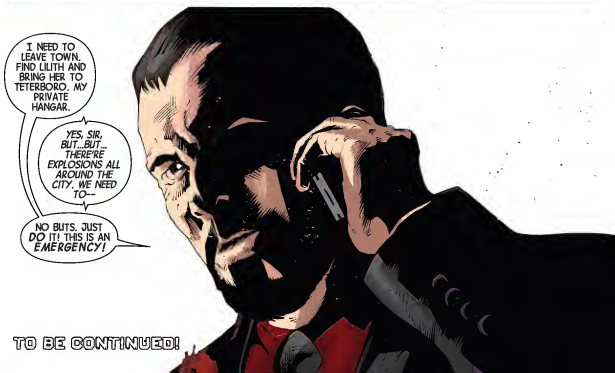


THAT
YOU ARE A
VAMPIRE!



AM I?
REALLY?





TO BE CONTINUED!



GEORGE A. ROMERO

004 **MARVEL**

**PARENTAL
ADVISORY!
NOT FOR KIDS!**

EMPIRE OF THE DEAD



ACT THREE

ILLUSTRATED BY
ANDREA MUTTI

A MESSAGE FOR THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT MAYOR CHANDRAKE

AS YOU ALL KNOW, IT'S BEEN FIVE YEARS SINCE THE UNDEAD MENACE FIRST BEGAN TERRORIZING THE WORLD. UNDER MAYOR CHANDRAKE'S LEADERSHIP, NEW YORK CITY HAS BECOME A FORTRESS OF ISOLATION AGAINST THE UNDEAD PLAGUE.

CHANDRAKE'S GUIDANCE HAS ALLOWED US, NEW YORK'S SECRET CABAL OF VAMPIRES, TO RETAIN OUR POWER AND CONTROL. DESPITE ALL CHANDRAKE HAS DONE FOR US, THERE ARE THOSE WHO WISH TO SEE HIM BROUGHT LOW. RUMORS OF DISCORD AMONGST CHANDRAKE'S HAREM OF WIVES, PARTICULARLY LILITH, ABOUND. CHILLY DOBBS, ONCE ONE OF US, IS RUNNING AN OPPOSITION CAMPAIGN BANKROLLED BY RUNYON, A KNOWN COMPATRIOT OF REBELS AND OTHER UNSAVORY TYPES.

TWO OF THOSE WARRING REBEL FACTIONS HAVE DESCENDED UPON THE CITY, ONE FACTION BY AIR, THE OTHER BY SEA. INTEL SHOWS THAT RUNYON, HAVING WITNESSED THE DESTRUCTION, MAY BE MAKING A BREAK FOR IT WITH SAID BANKROLL.

KEEP NEW YORK SAFE. KEEP NEW YORK OURS. SPREAD THE WORD AND VOTE CHANDRAKE!



THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT MAYOR CHANDRAKE MEMBERS:

GEORGE ROMERO WRITER **ANDREA MUTTI** PENCILER

ROBERTO POGGI INKER **RAIN BEREDO** COLOR ARTIST

VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERER **FRANCESCA MATTINA** COVER ARTIST

JESSICA PIZARRO PRODUCTION **PETER GRUNWALD** PRODUCER

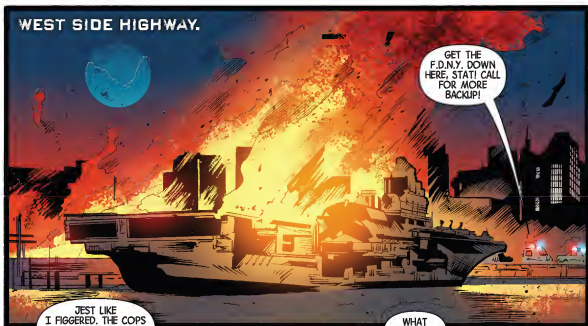
JAKE THOMAS EDITOR **AXEL ALONSO** EDITOR IN CHIEF

JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER **DAN BUCKLEY** PUBLISHER



GEORGE ROMERO'S EMPIRE OF THE DEAD: ACT THREE No. 4. Published Monthly by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 135 West 50th Street, New York, NY 10020. © 2015 Romero-Grunwald Productions. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Romero-Grunwald Productions. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

WEST SIDE HIGHWAY.



JEST LIKE I FIGGERED. THE COPS ARE CHASIN' AFTER THE BOOMERS. WE'RE WAY AHEAD OF 'EM.

WHAT ABOUT ZEB, DANIEL?

HE'S LOST IN THE CLOUDS SOMEWHERE. LONG GONE. IN THAT STUPID-ASS BALLOON.



WE CAN SEE 'EM FROM UP HERE.



THEY COULD SEE US, TOO, ZEB.

YEAH, 'CEPT THEY'S TOO STUPID TA LOOK UP.

WE'LL CATCH UP TO 'EM.

YEAH. BUT... WHADDA WE DO THEN?

DROP SOME HELLFIRE ON 'EM.



KICK THEIR SORRY ASSES AND WALK AWAY WITH THE LOOT.



BUTTERCUP'S BROTHEL.









CAN'T SEE
INTA THE BACK
OF YER VAN.
WHAT YOU GOT
IN THERE?



UNDERWEAR.



I JUST
CAN'T WAIT TA
SHOW YA MY
UNDERWEAR.

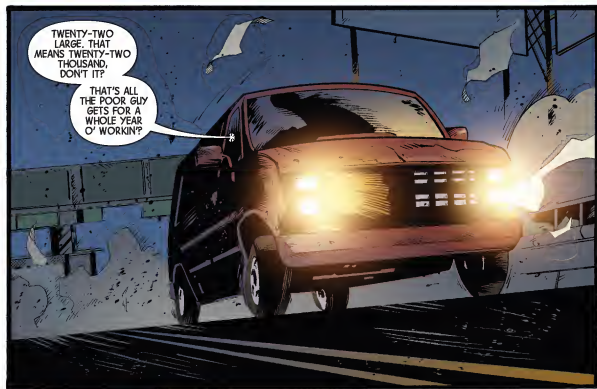


I'M
GONNA
HAFTA TAKE
A LOOK.

WHAT,
AT MY
UNDERWEAR?

I GOTTA
LOOK AND SEE
WHAT YOU'RE
HAULIN'.





TWENTY-TWO
LARGE. THAT
MEANS TWENTY-TWO
THOUSAND,
DON'T IT?

THAT'S ALL
THE POOR GUY
GETS FOR A
WHOLE YEAR
O' WORKIN'?



YES, DIXIE.
THAT IS WHY
THE POOR GUY
IS A **POOR**
GUY.



HOW
MUCH ARE
WE CARRYIN'?
LOOKS LIKE
MILLIONS
TA ME.

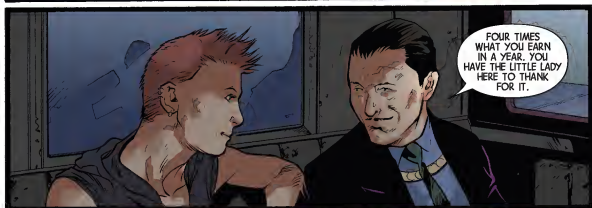


MORE THAN
THAT. **MILLIONS**
AND **MILLIONS** AND A
COUPLE OF **EXTRA**
MILLIONS.

HMM.

BIG LOUIE,
STOP THE CAR.
THERE IS A LITTLE
SOMETHING I WOULD
LIKE YOU TO GET
FROM THE
BACK.





LIBERTY STREET.

EYES OPEN,
BOYS...

...THIS
IS STINKER
TERRITORY.

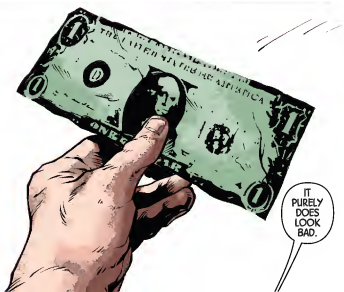
WE MADE
IT, BROTHER.
THE FEDERAL
RESERVE!

HOW
COME THEM
DOORS AIN'T
SHUT?

SOMEBODY
MUSTA...
SCREWED UP.

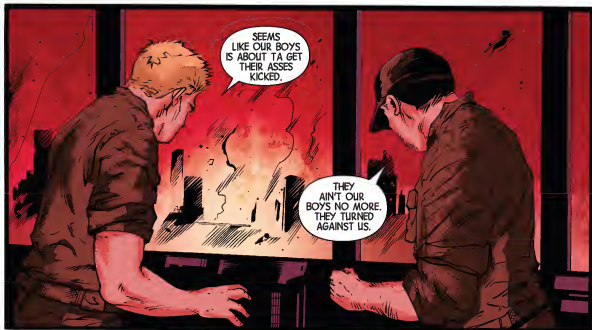
SCREWED UP? AT THE
FEDERAL RESERVE? NOT
LIKELY. AND HOW COME
THERE AIN'T NO FOLKS
PROTECTIN' THIS
JOINT?

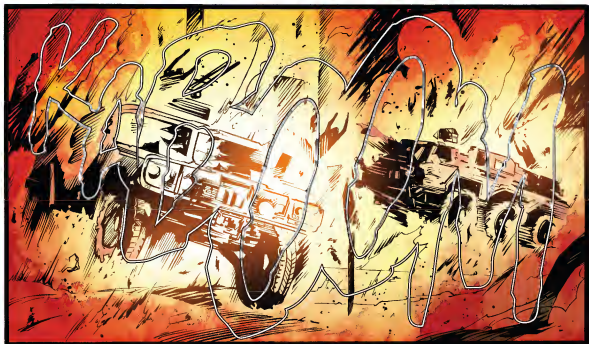
MAYBE...
THEY'S ON
A LUNCH BREAK.
COME ON, LET'S
GO INSIDE.













WHAT
THE HELL
IS GOIN'
ON?



THEY
THINK WE GOT
THE MONEY.

THERE
WASN'T NO
MONEY.

THAT DON'T
MATTER...



THEM
BASTARDS
THINK WE
GOT IT!



DANIEL,
WHAT'RE WE
GONNA--

AAAAARGH!!!

KABOOM











GEORGE A. ROMERO

ACT THREE

ILLUSTRATED BY
ANDREA MUTTI

005 **MARVEL**

EMPIRE OF THE DEAD



**PARENTAL
ADVISORY!
NOT FOR KIDS!**

A MESSAGE FOR THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT MAYOR CHANDRAKE

AS YOU ALL KNOW, IT'S BEEN FIVE YEARS SINCE THE UNDEAD MENACE FIRST BEGAN TERRORIZING THE WORLD. UNDER **MAYOR CHANDRAKE**'S LEADERSHIP, NEW YORK CITY HAS BECOME A FORTRESS OF ISOLATION AGAINST THE UNDEAD PLAGUE.

CHANDRAKE'S GUIDANCE HAS ALLOWED US, NEW YORK'S SECRET CABAL OF VAMPIRES, TO RETAIN OUR POWER AND CONTROL. DESPITE ALL CHANDRAKE HAS DONE FOR US, THERE ARE THOSE WHO WISH TO SEE HIM BROUGHT LOW. RUMORS OF DISCORD AMONGST CHANDRAKE'S HAREM OF WIVES, PARTICULARLY **LILITH**, AROUND. **CHILLY DOBBS**, ONCE ONE OF US, IS RUNNING AN OPPOSITION CAMPAIGN BANKROLLED BY **RUNYON**, WHO IS RUMORED TO HAVE ESCAPED THE CITY DURING THE RECENT REBEL ATTACKS.

ALTHOUGH SCIENTIST **PENNY JONES** HAS MADE GREAT STRIDES IN HER ATTEMPT TO "TAME" THE UNDEAD, HER ASSOCIATION WITH **PAUL BARNUM**, WHO TRAINS THE ZOMBIE GLADIATORS FOR THE ARENA, HAS PROVEN PROBLEMATIC. BARNUM HAS DISCOVERED OUR...FOOD FARM UPSTATE, WHICH IS VITAL TO THE CONTINUING STRENGTH OF OUR VAMPIRE COALITION.

KEEP NEW YORK SAFE. KEEP NEW YORK OURS. SPREAD THE WORD AND VOTE CHANDRAKE!



THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT MAYOR CHANDRAKE MEMBERS:

GEORGE ROMERO WRITER **ANDREA MUTTI** PENCILER

ROBERTO POGGI INKER **RAIN BEREDO** COLOR ARTIST

VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERER **FRANCESCA MATTINA** COVER ARTIST

IDETTE WINECOOR PRODUCTION **PETER GRUNWALD** PRODUCER

JAKE THOMAS EDITOR **AXEL ALONSO** EDITOR IN CHIEF

JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER **DAN BUCKLEY** PUBLISHER



GEORGE ROMERO'S EMPIRE OF THE DEAD: ACT THREE No. 5. Published Monthly by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 135 West 50th Street, New York, NY 10020. © 2015 Romero-Grunwald Productions. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Romero-Grunwald Productions. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

NEAR TARRYTOWN.

HELMETS...
ON.

HELMETS WILL
KEEP YOU SAFE.
WHEN WE GO INTO
THE FIGHT. FIGHT.
UNDERSTAND?

XAVIER

FIGHT.

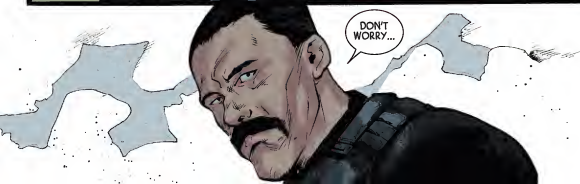
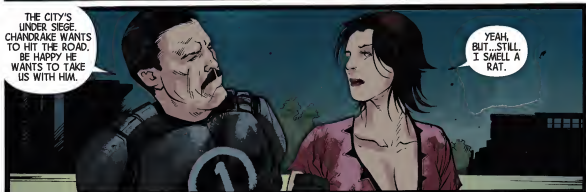
JUST
LIKE IN
THE ARENA.
FIGHT.
FIGHT!

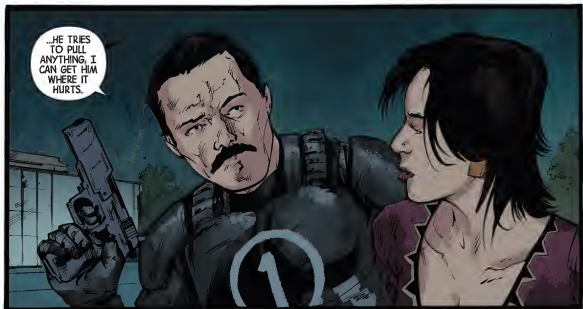
FOR
JO. DON'T
FORGET. FIGHT TO
GET LITTLE JO
BACK.

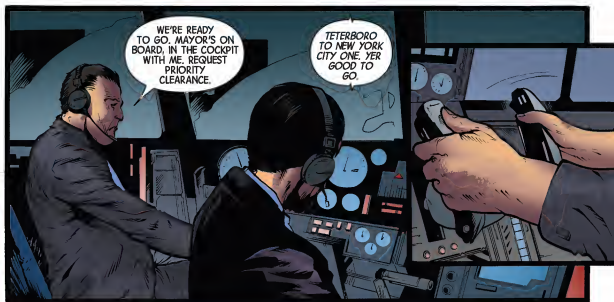
LITTLE JO. GET...BACK.

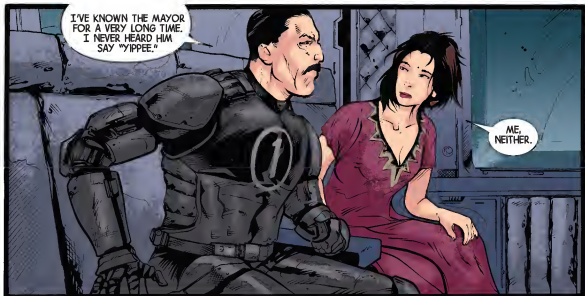


TETERBORO AIRPORT.











WHO ARE YOU?



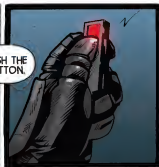
STOP. STOP!
I'M CHANDRAKE'S
DOUBLE. IN CASE
SOMETHIN' BAD HAPPENS,
I TAKE IT IN THE ASS
'STEAD OF HIM.



TURN
THIS PLANE
AROUND!

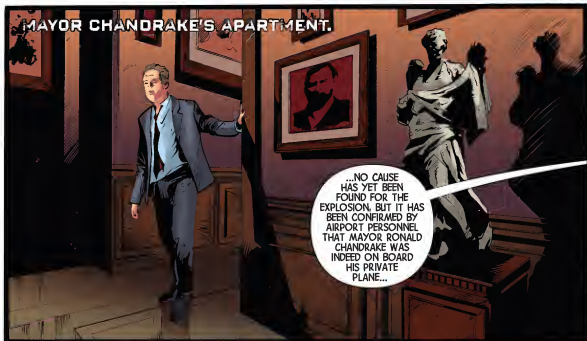


GET
US BACK ON
THE GROUND!
FAST!





MAYOR CHANDRAKE'S APARTMENT.



GOVERNMENT FARM.
UPSTATE NEW YORK.

I'M GONNA
HAFTA GO OUT
THERE.

NO!
WHY?

GOTTA
CONVINCE
THEM THAT
WE'RE
LEGIT.

DON'T
WORRY. I'LL
BE OKAY. JUST
STAY ON THE
BUS UNTIL IT'S
TIME.

SLIPSHOD,
LEMMIE OUTTA
THIS CRATE.

HEY, GUARD! YOU
KNOW ME, RIGHT?
I'M THE GUY WHO RUINS
THE CIRCUS. OPEN UP.
I GOT A BUNCH A NEW
RECRUITS FOR YOUR
FUNNY FARM.

LET HIM
IN.







WHAM

HURK!

AAARGH!

SHUNK











PAUL...
PAUL, ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT?
I...

I JUST
SHOT A
MAN.

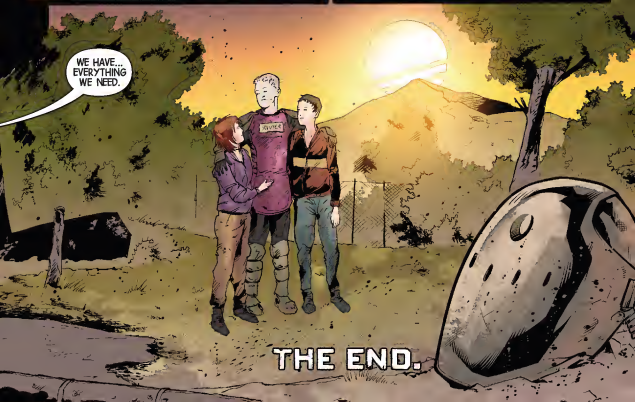
WAS
HE A BAD
MAN?

YES.

THEN EVERY
MAN'S GOD WILL
FORGIVE YOU. WHERE
ARE WE? MY
EYESIGHT'S BEEN
KNOCKED SILLY.

THE FARM.
REMEMBER THE
FARM?

YES. THE
FARM. THAT MEANS
WE HAVE EVERYTHING
WE NEED.



WE HAVE...
EVERYTHING
WE NEED.

THE END.

